

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This case has been carefully reviewed and analyzed in view of the Official Action dated 22 March 2007. Responsive to the rejections made in the Official Action, Independent Claims 1 and 10 have been amended to clarify the unique combination of elements that form the invention of the subject Patent Application. Further, Claims 13-16 have been added by this Amendment. Claims 2-3 and 6-8 were cancelled by a previous Amendment.

In the Official Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 1, 3-5 and 9-12 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Enomoto, et al. (JP 2003123673), in view of Applicants own admitted prior art.

Prior to discussing the cited references, it is believed beneficial to first briefly describe the invention of the subject Patent Application. Applicant's inventive concept includes a self-adhesive frame (404) suitable for assembling in a field emission display device (FED). The self-adhesive frame has among its features, a cathode plate (122) having a plurality of cathode conductors disposed on the plate (501), an anode plate (420) having a plurality of anode conductors disposed on the plate (601), and a frame disposed between the cathode and anode plates. The frame has an enclosed space formed internal to the frame and includes a main body (401) with a closed contour to define the enclosed space. The closed contour further includes two pairs of opposing mutually parallel sides, each one of

the sides being aligned along in parallel to the cathode and anode conductors respectively. Further, the main body (401) has opposing anode and cathode plate sealing surfaces, with a first adhesive being disposed on each of the surfaces. A plurality of fixing side strips (402) extend from respective corners of the frame and are parallel to corresponding sides of the main body. The cathode plate facing surfaces and the anode plate facing surfaces of the fixing strips continuously contact the cathode and anode plates respectively.

It is respectfully submitted that Enomoto discloses an FED being equipped with a front substrate (11), a larger tooth-back substrate (12), and a side attachment wall (18) separating the front and tooth-back substrates. Additionally, the attachment wall includes a plurality of lobes (18A-D) which extend from four corners of attachment wall (18). Note, however, that Enomoto's lobes (which the Examiner equated to the fixing strips of the instant invention) do not "...continuously contact each of said cathode and anode plates." In fact, Enomoto specifically prescribes, in paragraph [0017], that dimensions of tooth-back substrate 12 are larger than that of front substrate 11. In this regard, lobes 18A-D extend beyond the periphery of the front substrate, thereby solely contacting the tooth-back substrate (see Figure 3). Thus, the lobes can not "continuously [contact] each of said cathode and anode plates," as recited in newly-amended Independent Claims 1 and 10.

Further, Enomoto prescribes that the sealing of the front and tooth-back substrates are carried out solely along the sides of attachment wall 18, with sealing material (30)- not along lobes 18A-D (see paragraph [18]). Thus, each of lobes 18A-D do not have “a second adhesive disposed [thereon]... to maintain said frame, said cathode plate, and said anode plate in registration prior to said application of heat.” Conversely, Applicant discloses that a second light-activated adhesive (e.g. UV glue) is spread along the fixing strips for temporary fixing of the frame, anode and cathode plates (See page 13 of the Specification as filed). Thus, Applicant’s inventive fixing strips do not increase the void area of the FED, since they protrude outwardly from opposing sides of the main body. Further, as the second adhesive is disposed on both the cathode and anode plate facing surfaces of the fixing strips, the overall length of time associated with the fusion process is considerably reduced.

Applicant’s own admitted prior art does not overcome the deficiencies of Enomoto. The deficiencies, further, are not remedied even when applying a second adhesive, such as that described by the prior art, and in fact teach away from the instant invention.

It is now believed that Claims 1 and 10 respectively recite elements not shown in the combination by the prior art cited by the Examiner, even when disclosures of such prior art are combined. As such, the prior art cited, even when combined, does not address a frame having fixing side stripes that “continuously

MR2349-964
Serial Number: 10/689,686
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invention of the subject Patent Application, as now claimed, is not made obvious by the references cited.

The remaining reference cited by the Examiner, but not used in the rejection, is believed to be further removed from Applicant's inventive concept, when patentable considerations are taken into account.

It is now believed that the subject Patent Application has been placed in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

No fees are believed to be due with this Amendment. If there are any charges associated with this filing, the Honorable Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account #18-2011 for such charges.

Respectfully submitted,
For: ROSENBERG, KLEIN & LEE


Morton J. Rosenberg

Registration No.: 26,049

Dated: 7 June 2007

Rosenberg, Klein & Lee
3458 Ellicott Center Dr.
Suite 101
Ellicott City, MD 21043
(410) 465-6678
Customer No.: 04586